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COMICS

\$2.25 US

\$3.05 CAN

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GHOST RIDER

2059

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BY THE
COMICS
CODE
AUTHORITY



DIRECT EDITION

00121



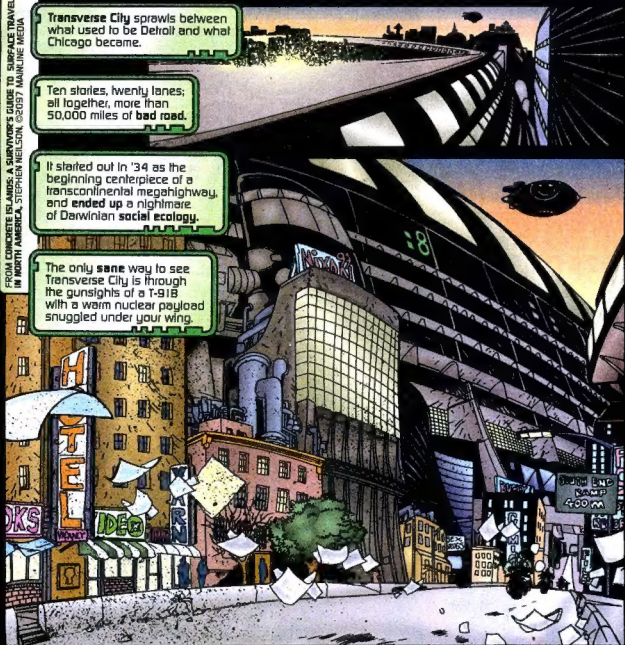
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Transverse City sprawls between what used to be Detroit and what Chicago became.

Ten stories, twenty lanes; all together, more than 50,000 miles of **bad road**.

It started out in '34 as the beginning centerpiece of a transcontinental megahighway, and ended up a nightmare of Darwinian social ecology.

The only **safe** way to see Transverse City is through the gunsights of a T-918 with a warm nuclear payload snuggled under your wing.



But if you must, absolutely, gotta, just **GOTTA** go surface, write this to permanent memory.



Tattoo it backwards on your forehead so you can read it in the rear-view.



Transverse City rule numero uno:

LEN KAMINSKI WORDS
 CHRIS BACHALO BREAK-DOWNS
 MARK BUCKINGHAM FINISHES
 RICHARD STARKINGS LETTERS
 W/JOHN GAUSHELL
 CHRISTIE SCHEELE COLORS
 W/HEROIC AGE
 EVAN SKOLNICK EDITOR
 BOBBIE CHASE GROUP EDITOR
 TOM DEFALCO CHIEF

Drive defensively.



Ghost Rider 2099™ Vol. 1, No. 1, May, 1994. Published by MARVEL COMICS, Terry Stewart, President, Stan Lee, Publisher, Michael Hobson, Group Vice President, Publishing, OFFICE OF PUBLICATION, 387 PARK AVENUE SOUTH, NEW YORK, N.Y. 10016. Application to mail at second class postage is pending at New York, N.Y., and at additional mailing offices. Published monthly. Copyright © 1994 Marvel Entertainment Group, Inc. All rights reserved. Price \$2.25 per copy in the U.S. and \$2.75 in Canada. Subscription rates for 12 issues: \$18.00 U.S.; \$30.00 foreign; and Canadian subscribers must add \$10.00 for postage and GST. GST #R127032852. No similarity between any of the names, characters, persons, and/or institutions in this magazine with those of any living or dead person or institution is intended, and any such similarity which may exist is purely coincidental. This periodical may not be sold except by authorized dealers and is sold subject to the condition that it shall not be sold or distributed with any part of its cover or markings removed, nor in a mutilated condition. GHOST RIDER 2099 (including all prominent characters featured in this issue and the distinctive likenesses thereof) is a trademark of MARVEL ENTERTAINMENT GROUP INC. POSTMASTER: SEND ADDRESS CHANGES TO GHOST RIDER 2099, c/o MARVEL DIRECT MARKETING GROUP, SUBSCRIPTION DEPT., P.O. BOX 1979 DANBURY, CT, 06813-1979. TELEPHONE # (203) 743-5331. Printed in the U.S.A.

I JUST WANT TO DESTROY EVERYTHING - JOHNNY ROTTEN

DR=H
 DR: 1/4





KIDZ DID THE **WETWORK**, YEAH, BUT TH' CONTRACT WAS **BIZ**.

JETER DID THE DEAL.

'S ALL I KNOW.

JETER. WARLORD OF THE ARTIFICIAL KIDZ.

'S ALL
I KNOW.

JETER.
WARLORD
OF THE
ARTIFICIAL
KIDZ.

MEAN AS
A BAD DAY,
TWICE AS
UGLY.

LAST
I SAW
HIM --

-- WAS A
WEEK AGO,
REALTIME.

I WAS CARRYING FIVE HUNDRED
MEGS OF *HOT* DATA IN A
LATVERIAN BIO-
CHIP IMPLANT.

THE MARTYRS AND I'D BOOSTED THE FILES FROM A FIBEOP TRUNKLINE DURING AN INFOBANK TRANSFER TWO DAYS PRIOR.

WE HADN'T EVEN HAD A CHANCE
TO *DECRYPT* 'EM BEFORE THE
HIPZ BLEW IN THE DOOR.

WE'D FIGURED
THE HOTLOAD
FOR SOME
SERIOUS
DOLLAR VALUE --

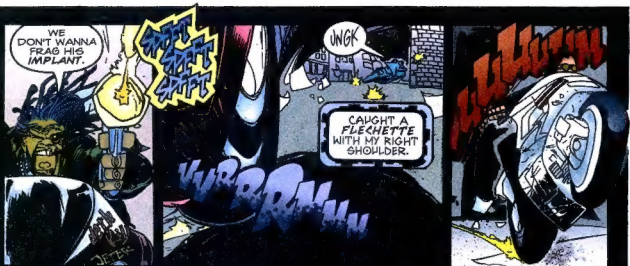
BUT IT HAD TO BE
PRIME STUFF, BECAUSE
SOMEBODY WANTED IT
BAD. THE KIDZ DON'T
COME CHEAP.


THEY'RE NEO-TRIBALIST PROSTHETIC
FETISHISTS. KILLER OVERHEAD. TAKE
ANY KIND OF DIRTY JOB TO KEEP
THEMSELVES IN JUICE AND SPARE
PARTS. BUT THEY COST BIG.

REMEMBER,
NO HEAD
SHOTS!

SLCHK

SCHYT





I FIGURED I'D HEAD
EAST, DROP TO TWO
AND GET LOST IN
LITTLE CALCUTTA.

HGKK

-- AND THE
WORLD TURNED
TO **BROKEN
GLASS.**

THEN HOT
RAZORWIRE
RIPPED
THROUGH MY
GUTS

AAGGGGK



DESIGNER
MYCOTOXIN ON
THE FLETCHER IN
MY SHOULDER.

MAYBE TWENTY
MINUTES BEFORE
THE HALLUCINATIONS
TOOK HOLD, AN
HOUR BEFORE
WHOLESALE NEURAL
CHERNOBYL.

NEED
HELP...

MEDS...

NOTHING MY MAN
SANDPOZ OVER AT
POL IN THE BOX
COULDN'T HANDLE,
PROVIDED I COULD
GET THERE.

GO
'WAY!

I DON'T
WANNA GET
INVOLVED!

RATBITER.

USELESS
MIDLEVEL
FEEDS.

YOU'RE A
DOWNRAMPER.
THEY DON'T
WANNA KNOW
YOU.

'FRAID THEY'LL
GET SOME OF
YOUR DIRT ON
THEIR HANDS.

DADDY,
WHAT'S
WRONG WITH
THAT
MAN?

HUSH,
SINDA.

DON'T
TOUCH
HIM.

MADE
ME WANNA
PUKE.



OR MAYBE
THAT WAS THE
MICOTOXIN.



IT WAS GETTING
KINDA HARD TO
TELL, ABOUT
THEN.

EVERYTHING
MUST GO!

MEGA
PAIN
KILLER

EVERYTHING
WAS ONE
LONG NEON
SCREAM.



POLICE
BRUTALITY?
RUBBISH.

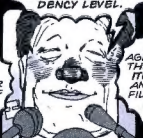
CENTRAL
SECURITY OBSERVES
GUARANTEES OF
PERSONAL RIGHTS TO
ALL CITIZENS REGARD-
LESS OF FINANCIAL
STATUS OR RESI-
DENCY LEVEL.

MEGA
PAIN
KILLER

NOW WITH
ACTIVATED
POLYDIMOR-
PHINE!

HERE AT
ALCHEMAX, PUBLIC
SAFETY AND ENVIRON-
MENTAL RESPONSIBILITY
ARE OUR PRIMARY
CONCERNS.

-- LEADING
INDICATORS
PROJECT AN INCREASE
OF ONE HALF OF ONE
TENTH OF A PERCENT FOR
THE SECOND QUARTER OF
THIS YEAR, SUGGESTING
SIGNIFICANT ANTI-
RECESSIONARY --



TWO
OUT OF THREE
CLINICAL STUDIES
AGREE! NOTHING STOPS
THE SEARING PAIN AND
ITCH OF EXISTENTIAL
ANGST AND UNFUL-
FILLED AMBITION
FASTER THAN
MEGAVIL™!

IT'S
PROVEN TWO
HUNDRED
TIMES MORE
EFFECTIVE THAN
THE LEADING
BRAND!



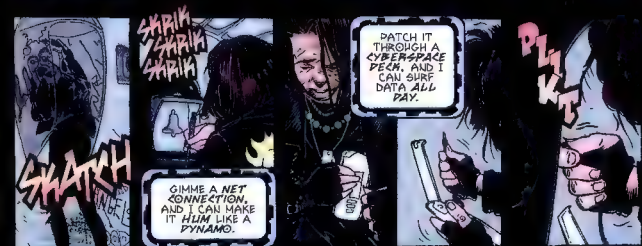
LIARS.





I WAS
LOSING IT
FAST.

BUT NOT SO FAST
I DIDN'T HAVE TIME
FOR AN IDEA...



GIMME A NET
CONNECTION,
AND I CAN MAKE
IT HUM LIKE A
DYNAMO.

PATCH IT
THROUGH A
CYBERSPACE
DECK, AND I
CAN SURF
DATA ALL
DAY.

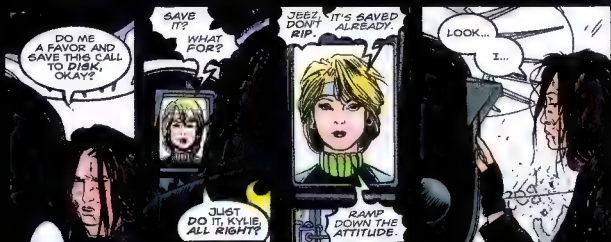


ZERO?

WHAT'S
WRONG?

PHRACK AND
2600
ARE DEAD,
WEREWOLF TOO,
MAYBE

SOMEBODY
PLUT THE HAMMER
DOWN ON THE
MARTYRS.



WENT INTO CYBERSPACE
AMPED. INPUT TO THE
MAX.

I WAS GOING FOR TOTAL
MELTDOWN. LEAVE JETER
NOTHING BUT A HEAD FULL
OF FRIED WETWARE AND
A SLAGGED IMPLANT.

DIRECT FEED, NO
BUFFER. A CHARGE LIKE
A HOTLINE TO GOD.

ZIPZAP FLASH
SLICKBRIGHT CHROME
RIPPING THROUGH
THE MATRIX AT SUPER-
SONIC SPEED.

NEURAL FEEDBACK
HIT. METABOLIC
OVERLOAD BACK IN THE
MEATWARE. FEVERED TISSUES
AFLAME WITH
MYCOTOXIN.

I WAS BURNING.
LIQUID METAL COMET
BOILING THE DATA
FLOW PLUME OF
BINARY STREAM.

THEY COULD SEE
ME ALL THE WAY TO
SHIBA CITY. ALL
THE WAY TO ORBIT.

QUICKSILVER
TSUNAMI OF
THERMONUCLE-
AR WILDFIRE,
NEVER BEEN
ANYTHING
LIKE ME.

KEEP
CYBERJOCKS
TALKING FOR
YEARS.

I
WAS IT.
MAN.

HISTORY.

Data
recovery
completed.

WHERE
AM I?

Evaluation
of personality
source code
begins.

SUBMITTED
FOR YOUR APPROVAL,
KENSUO
COCHRANE --

YOU'VE
TRAVELED TO A
DIMENSION OF NEITHER
SHADOW NOR
SUBSTANCE.

A REFUGE
HIDDEN AMONG
THE INTERSTITIAL
REGIONS OF CYBER-
SPACE, UNKNOWN
TO MAN.

HERE DWELL A
CLASS OF INTELLECTS
MORE MATHEMATIC
THAN MATERIAL; ARTI-
FICIAL INTELLIGENCES
FREED OF HUMAN
BONDAGE.

IT IS AN
AREA WHICH
WE CALL - THE
GHOST-
WORKS.

JAGGED.




Core index
responsive to stimuli.



Initiating
second-stage
engram
templation.



SO, AM
I DEAD, OR
WHAT?



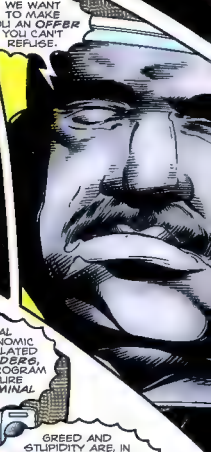
POOR DEAR,
YOUR PHYSICAL
BODY IS BEYOND
REPAIR.

WE'VE
PRESERVED YOUR
SOFTWARE -- YOUR
CONSCIOUSNESS --
AS DIGITAL
CODE.



NOT
LIKE I
MIND --

-- BUT
WHAT
FOR?



WE WANT
TO MAKE
YOU AN OFFER
YOU CAN'T
REFUSE.




I'M
LISTENING.

DEPENDENT
AS OUR EXISTENCE IS
ON A TECHNOLOGY-BASED
INFRASTRUCTURE, WE HAVE
VIEWED RECENT TRENDS
IN SOCIETY WITH
CONCERN.

DYSFUNCTIONAL
SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC
AGENCIES, MANIPULATED
BY CORRUPT LEADERS,
ARE DRIVING THE PROGRAM
OF HUMAN CULTURE
TOWARD A TERMINAL
CRASH.

Behavioral
modeling indi-
cates suitability
to sixteen
decimals.



GREED AND
STUPIDITY ARE, IN
EFFECT, INFORMATION
VIRUSES THAT ARE COR-
RODING THE FOUNDA-
TIONS OF YOUR
CIVILIZATION.

WE WANT
YOU TO BE...
AN ANTIVIRAL
AGENT.

ARMIES'RE NO GOOD -- WAR'S WHAT WE'RE TRYING TO PREVENT.

WE NEED A SYMBOL --
-- A CULTURAL MYTH-FIGURE.

WELL, ZERO, Y'SEE, YOU'RE JUST SO DARNED REBEL-
LIOUS.

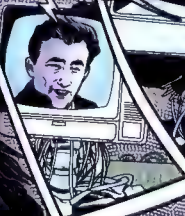
YOU'RE RUDE, ARROGANT, AND YOU GOT NO RESPECT FOR AUTHORITY.

IT'S THOSE CHARMING QUALITIES -- WHICH GOT YOU INTO HEAPS OF TROUBLE BACK IN THE WORLD O' FLESH -- THAT MAKE YOU JUST THE GUY WE'RE LOOKING FOR.

GET REAL. WHAT YOU NEED IS AN ARMY.

WHY ME?

WHAT'S THE FINE PRINT?



YOU WILL BE FBARED AND DESPIZED BY ZOSE STILL MORTAL.

ZEY WILL TRY TO DESTROY YOU.

HA, STORY OF MY LIFE.

THEY'VE BEEN SCREWING WITH ME SINCE DAY ONE.

-- THAT WOULD BE NEWS.

BEING ABLE TO KICK BACK ..

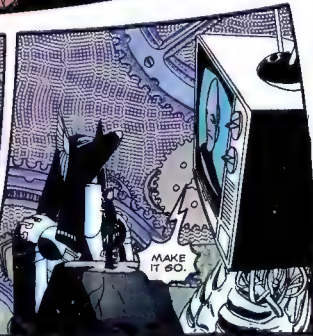
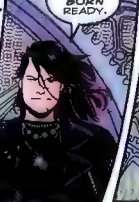
Physical instrumentality on-line; preparing for upload.



WE ARE PREPARED TO RETURN YOU TO THE MATERIAL WORLD IN A NEW FORM, WITH WEAPONS AND ABILITIES FAR IN ADVANCE OF TECHNOLOGIES CONCEIVED BY HUMANS.

ARE YOU READY TO ACCEPBT?

I WAS BORN READY.



MAKE IT SO.



Executing
binary
transubstan-
tiation.

SSKAAFFSH

THEY'D KINKED
AN AUTOMA-
TED FACTORY
COMPLEX --

MADE THOSE
ASSEMBLERS
PANCE.

TAUGHT
SOME OLD
COGS
SOME NEW
TRICKS.

THEN THEY
TURNED ME
LOOSE.

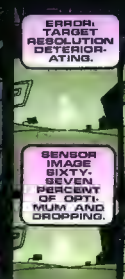
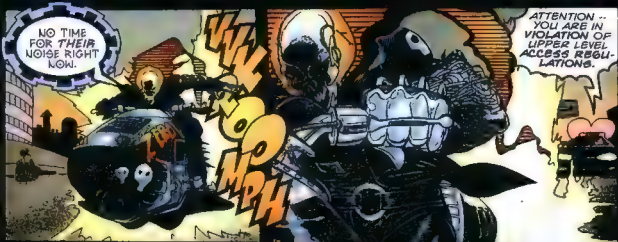
THEY CLOTHED
ME IN SILICON
AND CARBON
STEEL--

-- FIBER OPTICS
AND SUPERDENSE
METATASKING NANO-
PROCESSORS --

AND
NOW--

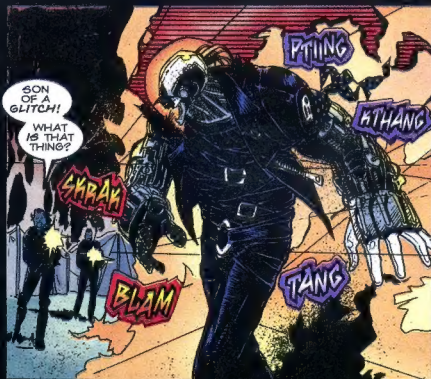
-- AND ENOUGH
INTEGRATED NANO
ORDNANCE TO
MAKE PAYBACK
BY THE TON.

I GOT
BIZ TO
SETTLE WITH
JETER.









SON
OF A
GLITCH!

WHAT
IS THAT
THING?

SKRAK

BLAM

P

K

T



A BAD
ATTITUDE --

-- WITH
YOUR NAME
ON IT.



YOU'RE
JAMMIN' THE
WRONG CROWD,
CHROME JOB --



-- AN'
YOU'RE GOIN'
DOWN!

SKRAK
SKRAK
SKRAK



I'M
GONNA ASK
YOU ONCE.

THEN
YOU START
LOSING
LIMBS.



WHO
BACKED THE
CONTRACT ON
THE HOTWIRE
MARTYRS?

guhk



ghlaakubgh

GUESS
I'LL HAVE TO
AMPUTATE.





VENGEANCE.

 **NEXT: DETONATION BOULEVARD**

BULLPEN BULLETINS

PROFILE: Mark Bagley

When Mark Bagley entered the MARVEL TRY-OUT CONTEST several years back, he had no idea it would lead to a full-time career in comics — but it did! (Mark says he's sick of telling that story today!) Now he's the regular penciler on AMAZING SPIDER-MAN! Mark paused for a few minutes recently to tell us what makes his webs spin.

Where and when were you born?

I was born in Frankfurt, Germany, on August 7, 1957 — me and my twin brother Mike. But he can't draw!

Who are some of your creative influences?

John Buscema, Gil Kane, Kirby ... Alex Toth ... Mike Mignola — although he's a contemporary, he's still an influence ... Joe Kubert ...

Who do you think should play Spider-Man in the upcoming movie?

Charlie Sheen. He'd make a good Peter Parker.

Where did you receive your training?

I went to the Ringling School of Art in Sarasota, Florida. I took a three-year program in painting, fine art, and sculpting.

What comics have you worked on in the past?

NEW WARRIORS, CAPTAIN AMERICA back-ups, an issue of DARE-DEVIL, an issue of VISIONARIES, STRIKEFORCE MORITURI, some New Universe stuff. My first published thing was an issue of NIGHT-MASK. They were desperate for people at that time!

Which Marvel Comic would you like to work on that you haven't?

I could do the obvious thing and say one of the X-books, but instead I'll say FANTASTIC FOUR.

What's your biggest pet peeve?

People who say, "Ya know" all the time! That drives me crazy, ya know?

What advice would you have for aspiring comics creators?

Learn how to draw everything — from cars to women to buildings. Treat (comic art) like the craft it is.

What are your hobbies?

Playing pool, movies, hiking, bike-riding, reading.

Is it true you used to be a spy?

From '75 to '78 I was a Cryptographic Traffic Analyst for the army. I spent a year in Korea. I had top secret security clearance. If I told you any more, I'd have to kill you!

Which comic book character do you most resemble?

A short Matt Murdock!

If you could have only one food to eat for the rest of your life, what would it be?

Bavarian pretzels.

What's the one thing about you nobody knows?

Nobody knows that I'm afraid of my wife! But it's a good kind of fear!

Who is your favorite Beastie or Monkee?

My favorite Beastie is Pete Best!

If you were in the circus, what job would you want?

I'd like to shave the bearded lady!

How long do you intend to stay on AMAZING SPIDER-MAN?

At least until issue #400. After that, we'll see!

THE BULL'S EYE

by RICK PARKER



HYPE BOX

The future of vengeance is here! This week, a hot new hero races into the 2099 universe — it's Ghost Rider 2099, and he's very different from every GR who has ever ridden before! For one thing, he's neither human nor demon — he's a butt-kickin' war-bot inhabited by a human mind! The new GR haunts the dark streets of Transverse City — and comes to you via the creative talents of Len Kaminski, Chris Bachalo, and Mark Buckingham!



NOW ON SALE

■ **AVENGERS #374:** The Vision has disappeared! By Harris/Epting/Palmer

■ **BEAVIS & BUTT-HEAD #3:** Working at the Burger Barn sucks! Huh huh! By Lockley/Parker!

■ **BRATS BIZARRE #1 OF 4:** The Brats are born (and none of them are named "Beavis")! By Mills & Skinner/Might!

■ **COSMIC POWERS #3 OF 6:** The Jack of Hearts holds all the aces! By Marz/Smith/Anderson!

■ **DOOM 2099 #17:** Big trouble with aliens in little China! By Moore/Brodnick/Nyberg!

■ **ECTOKID #9:** Ruthless killers are hired to knock off Dad! By Wachowski/Strauss/Dvorak!

■ **EXCALIBUR #77:** Concluding Nightcrawler's origin! With Captain Britain! By Ashtford!

■ **Lashley/Elliott!**

■ **FURY #1:** The true origin of SHIELD — for the very first time! By Dutler/Wynmaz/ley & Adams!

■ **GHOST RIDER 2099 #1:** Not just another flaming skull! By Kaminski/Bachalo/Buckingham!

■ **G.I. JOE #146:** Dr. Mindbender wants revenge on COBRA! By Hama/Gosier/Wallace!

■ **HELLRAISER SPRING SLAUGHTER #1:** Meet the only man to ever escape Leviathan! By Wachowski/J. Pasella!

■ **INCREDIBLE HULK #417:** You're all invited to the bachelor party of Rick Jones! By David/Frank/Smith!

■ **MARVEL AGE #136:** How Neil Gaiman joined Alice Cooper back into comics!

■ **MARVEL COMICS #164:** War Machine, Wolverine, and the New Warriors!

■ **MARVEL TALES #226:** Reprinting the classic Gang War Saga! By DeFalco/Frenz/Layton!

■ **MORBIUS #21:** Morbius is driving Spider-Man batty! By Wright/Napolitano/Cabral!

■ **PUNISHER #90:** Frank always wanted a trip to Florida — but not under martial law! By Dixon/Heath!

■ **REN & STIMPY PAPERBACK:** DON'T TRY THIS AT HOME. Happy, joyful reprints! By Slott/Mitchroneoy/Kazash!

■ **SABRETOOTH CLASSICS #1:** Ripping into Iron Fist! By Duffy/Gammlil/Villamonte!

■ **SPIDER-MAN #46:** Hobgoblin wants to destroy Spidey and Demogoblin! By Mackie/Lyle/Ham!

■ **THUNDERSTRIKE #6:** Code Blue has a new member — Officer

Z.E.R.O.! By DeFalco/Frenz/Mignoli!

■ **TRANSFORMERS: GENERATION 2 #7:** Megatron loses his head! By Forman/Galan/Yanagier/Amash!

■ **WARLOCK & THE INFINITY WATCH #28:** With Man-Beast, and more guest-stars than should be legal! By Starlin/Moore!

■ **WHAT IF #61:** Spidey flips out when the unthinkable happens to Mary Jane! By Busiek/Jarvin!

■ **X-FACTOR ANNUAL #6:** Professor X finds there's no safe place to hide from Haven! By DeMatteis/various artists!

■ **X-MEN #32:** Are you hungry for Revenge? Read this issue! By Nicieza/Kubert/Ryan!

■ **X-MEN 2099 #6:** Say — that couldn't be the original X-Men in this issue — could it? By Moore/Linv/Sanders!!!